

## ABSTRACT OF DISCLOSURE

A color splitting/combining optical system is disclosed, which has a color-selective wave plate and a polarization splitting surface, and in which light leakage can be decreased when displayed in black. The color splitting/combining optical system includes a first optical member for color splitting and a second optical member which has a polarization splitting surface for color splitting/combining, and a third optical member for color combining. Further, the optical system has a first color-selective wave plate and a second color-selective wave plate. The first color-selective wave plate converts the polarization direction of light in a first wavelength region by 90 degrees, and the second color-selective wave plate converts the polarization direction of light in the second wavelength region by 90 degrees. The optical system satisfies  $\lambda_1 \neq \lambda_2$ .